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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/46/645/Add.10)]

46/166. Entrepreneurship

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 45/188 of 21 December 1990, as adopted, and taking note of section IV of the report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation on operational activities for development, 1/

Recalling its resolution 44/211 of 22 December 1989,

Taking note of decision 91/11 of 25 June 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, 2/

1. Welcomes the activities being undertaken by various organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to promote entrepreneurship in economic development, and expresses its appreciation to the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation for the information on those activities, as contained in his annual report on operational activities of the United Nations system; 3/

1/ See A/46/206-E/1991/93, annex.

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 13 (E/1991/34), annex I.

3/ See A/46/206/Add.2-E/1991/93/Add.2, annex.

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2. Notes the establishment by the United Nations Development Programme of a new Division for the Private Sector in Development and the fact that the Governing Council of the Programme has already allocated some resources, including Special Programme Resources, for promoting the private sector during the fifth programming cycle;

3. Recognizes the important role that technical assistance can play in assisting Governments to develop and revitalize their economies through free enterprise, competitive markets and entrepreneurship and by strengthening the efficiency of the public sector in accordance with their national conditions and development priorities, and takes account of the central funding role of the United Nations Development Programme in programming assistance to Governments in response to those conditions and priorities;

4. Also recognizes the need for improved collaboration among relevant United Nations organs, organizations and bodies in order to make the best use of resources in promoting entrepreneurship, in particular at the country level;

5. Requests the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to improve further the efficiency of their activities for promoting entrepreneurship, including the provision of technical assistance to interested countries, thereby attracting adequate resources;

6. Also requests the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of their activities related to the promotion of entrepreneurship, in particular through private sector development, in interested countries, by promoting small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as cooperatives, and by exploring ways and means for supporting the incorporation of informal sectors into the formal economy and the development of more efficient and effective public enterprises through the promotion, where appropriate, of market-oriented approaches to their operation;

7. Further requests the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to strengthen their communication and cooperation, and invites the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation to give due attention to and focus on coordination of the activities of the United Nations system in support of formal and informal entrepreneurship activities, as appropriate, in the context of its human resources development efforts, through the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the Division for the Private Sector in Development of the United Nations Development Programme;

8. Requests the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation to continue to include, on a biennial basis, in his annual report on operational activities for development, pertinent information on the activities being undertaken by the United Nations system to promote entrepreneurship;

9. Recognizes the vital role of the public sector in creating a favourable and stable environment for the promotion of entrepreneurship;

10. Calls upon the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to promote entrepreneurship, when requested, by supporting the national efforts of countries and the measures they may adopt through market-oriented approaches to further the development of entrepreneurship and to help overcome the constraints they may face in this regard;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to make qualitative improvements in research activities on entrepreneurship, particularly in small and medium-sized enterprises and cooperatives, in promoting economic growth, and to include relevant findings in the World Economic Survey;

12. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, on the basis of consultations with Member States and appropriate international organizations, recommendations for action by the United Nations system in support of entrepreneurship, in particular through private sector development, in interested countries, taking into account the role of women in entrepreneurship, the environmental aspects of private sector activities and the impact of the international economic environment on efforts to promote entrepreneurship.

78th plenary meeting
19 December 1991